

East Grinstead Courier

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I harassed no one, says private eye

AN AMERICAN private eye working in East Grinstead has denied harassing residents.

Eugene Ingram, 48, from California, has been investigating documents allegedly stolen from the Church of Scientology UK base at Saint Hill. During the past month he has approached some 150 people across the south east.

Speaking exclusively to the Courier about his work, Mr Ingram said: "Apart from a couple of ex-

ceptions, everytime I've seen allegations of harassment there's no name to go along with it."

"The question is who did I harass, how did I harass them? If knocking on a door and asking a person if I can talk is harassment, I have no control over that."

Mr Ingram added: "I am very open in the job that I do. I do not need to harass people."

Mr Ingram said that he was not a Scientologist.

"I work for a law firm

who happens to represent the Church."

He said he has worked for a number of law firms representing the Church since 1982.

Beliefs

Asked why he was not a Scientology member, Mr Ingram replied: "I'm a Christian. I'm content with my religious beliefs."

A former police sergeant, Mr Ingram said he left the Los Angeles Police Department after being shot in

the back in 1980, and was disabled for two years.

Mr Ingram had been staying on and off at the Felbridge Resort Hotel in East Grinstead but has now left.

He intends to stay in the area for another two weeks.

"I've been amazed at the co-operation of English citizens in assisting my operation. Everybody I have spoken to has been wonderful. I've had a great time."

Profit motive behind attack on Scientology

YOUR story Ex-Scientologists to 'Expose' Cult (March 4) completely missed the point.

What your readers were not told is that the two Scientology "ex-members" in question have been involved in removing materials from church premises and using these for their own ends.

The true story is this. Robin Scott and Ron Lawley engaged in a criminal conspiracy in 1983. In furtherance of that conspiracy, Scott and others went to Denmark, entered a church using a subterfuge, and stole sacred religious scriptures. Why? So Scott and others could exploit them for profit.

Part of Scott and Lawley's plans was to start up new Scientology organisations under a different name and provide the church services described in the stolen materials. Why an organisation separate from the church? So they could personally profit and enrich themselves.

These materials are held in a great deal of respect by church members and it is part of church procedures that Scientologists be prepared to receive counselling with these materials. Much the same as in other religions, preparation is needed before one can move to this higher spiritual level.

Not only have Scott and Lawley taken the materials for their own use, but they have deliberately aired them in public, knowing this to be upsetting and offensive to Scientologists.

Lawley made a point of bringing up in court the contents of these materials even though this information was not part of the general discussion and had no

need to be. Not only is that act offensive to the church, but the theft of sacred religious material with the intention of black marketing for gain is abhorrent to society at large.

Scott was arrested by Danish authorities, tried, convicted and jailed for his involvement in the removal of the church materials.

Ron Lawley had escaped from Denmark before the police could arrest him.

As a further result from the theft, a court ordered that Scott and Lawley together pay the church over £125,000.

That is what the suit was about. Since it was filed, the original materials that

ceration. Now, suddenly, they claim otherwise.

The only common denominator is their disguised profit motive.

Another minor detail Scott failed to mention is that his barrister would not represent him any more.

Scott had been made a valid and generous offer for settlement which had already been accepted by three of the five defendants in the case. Scott refused to accept, at which point his barrister could no longer ethically advise him and left the case.

This was all borne out in the final hearing on March 8. The judge, rather than return the copies to Lawley

and Scott unconditionally, granted an indefinite stay of his order pending appeal, barring the defendants from obtaining copies of the stolen materials.

Further, the judge made Lawley agree to an undertaking that, should he ever get the copies back, he would not violate the copyright of the materials or use them for publication.

Robin Scott refused to cooperate with the court on this, thus revealing his real intentions, whereupon the judge ordered him placed under an injunction on the same terms.

Both defendants were admonished and instructed that a violation of those terms could result in a jail sentence of up to two years.

Appeal has now been filed in the case and the materials are being held until the completion of the appeal action.

Your article incorrectly

owe the church money.

In fact Lawley seems to understand this perfectly. He wrote to the church's solicitor the day before the last hearing that "If these costs are enforced against us then we could face financial ruin".

Mr Lawley and Mr Scott should have thought of that before they decided to travel to Denmark to steal the church's material in order to line their own pockets.

Scientology is thriving. That is a story you have not printed.

SHEILA CHALEFF
Public affairs director
Church of Scientology
Saint Hill Manor
East Grinstead

LETTERS